

## EMPLOYER MEETINGS BEGIN THIS MONTH

### *2006 Meeting Schedule*

The employer meetings begin this month. Every employer is encouraged to have at least one representative attend. PERSI has worked to make the meetings not only fun, but also extremely informative. This is the best time for employers to gather information about new processes and procedures at PERSI. Understanding changes may make your job easier. New employers will really appreciate the 'back to basics' segment. Attending the meetings will also allow employers to ask questions and raise any concerns.

General employers will meet from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and school districts will meet from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Date	City	Place
April 18	Boise	Statehouse Inn 981 Grove St.
April 19	Nampa	Nampa Civic Center 311 3 <sup>rd</sup> St.
May 2	Sandpoint	La Quinta Inn 415 Cedar St.
May 3	Coeur d'Alene	AmeriTel 333 Ironwood Dr.
May 4	Lewiston	Lewis and Clark State College Selway & Lochsa River Rooms
May 17	Idaho Falls	Shilo Inn 780 Lindsay Blvd.
May 18	Pocatello	AmeriTel 1440 Bench Rd.
May 19	Twin Falls	AmeriTel 1377 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.
June 6	Grangeville	Super 8 801 SW 1 <sup>st</sup> St.
June 7	McCall	The Hunt Lodge, Holiday Inn Express 210 North 3 <sup>rd</sup> St.

## PERSI WELCOMES NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR



PERSI is pleased to announce Don Drum has assumed the role of Deputy Director. He comes to PERSI after spending more than 15 years with the Idaho Department of Correction. During his time with Corrections, Don honed his management, compliance, human resource, and policy and procedure skills while serving as a fiscal officer, administrator of management services, and administrator of support. His extensive experience includes interacting with state legislators and numerous state and federal agencies. Before entering public service for the State of Idaho, Don was the controller and vice president of finance and accounting with Multi-Link Systems in Boise. He earned a bachelors degree in business administration from Boise State and achieved Public Accountant Certification in Alaska and Oregon. Don replaces John Doner, who retired after nearly 5 years with PERSI.



# UPDATE: NEW LEGISLATION AFFECTING PERSI

- **SB1268 One Year After Leaving Employment to File for Disability Retirement.** An inactive member filing for disability retirement must do so within one year after their last day physically on the job. Signed by the Governor on 3/22/06.
- **SB1269 Deleting Old Voluntary Contribution Program.** Repeals section 59-1335 concerning the Voluntary Contribution Program, which was enacted in 1967 prior to the adoption of the PERSI Choice Plan as a way for members to enhance their Base Plan benefit. Signed by the Governor on 3/22/06.
- **SB1270 Amending Unused Sick Leave Program.** Amends the Unused Sick Leave Program for state and school participants. The amendments 1) allow the Board to determine "rate of pay" used to calculate the value of the member's unused sick leave account; 2) allow PERSI to apply federal tax limits to payments from unused sick leave accounts; and 3) update the types of insurance premiums that may be deducted from the unused sick leave accounts. Signed by the Governor on 3/22/06.
- **SB1271 Clarifies Death Benefit Calculation in the Case of Rehired Retiree.** This bill clarifies some language in the law and addresses how the death benefit will be calculated for a rehired retiree. Signed by the Governor on 3/22/06.
- **SB1272 Removes Required Distribution of Accounts Above \$1000.** In recent legislation, the federal government has required that, in the case of any mandatory distributions from a retirement plan for members who do not elect to take the distribution, they must be rolled to an IRA. There are onerous and complex regulations regarding how the retirement system must set up and monitor the IRAs. This bill removes the mandatory distribution requirement for non-vested, inactive members who have account balances above \$1000 (the threshold for the law). Signed by the Governor on 3/22/06.
- **SB1334 Class C Firefighters, Retro.** This bill amends a bill passed in 1990, which removed the class of members hired between July 1, 1978 and September 30, 1980, and transferred active members to the general provisions of the FRF law. However, there was no specific language to address retirees who were hired between 1978-1980, but were retired on the effective date in 1990. This bill states that the retired members are treated similarly to the active members. Signed by the Governor on 3/30/06.
- **SB1345 Reemployment of PERSI Retirees as Elected Officials.** This bill provides that under certain conditions, a PERSI retiree may be elected to a full-time public office and continue to receive their retirement allowance. The conditions are: 1) they must have been retired for more than 6 months; 2) they cannot be elected to the same office held prior to retirement; 3) they must have achieved Rule of 80/90 or age 60/65; and 4) they will not accrue any additional PERSI service. Signed by the Governor on 3/24/06.
- **SB1409 Establishes a Fund for Purchase of Service for Senior Magistrate Judges.** Establishes a fund, funded by additional filing fees, to purchase up to 48 months of PERSI service for senior magistrate judges as defined in Idaho Code 1-2221. Signed by the Governor on 3/30/06.
- **SB1411 Indemnification of PERSI Board Members.** This bill clarifies the provision for defense and indemnification of the PERSI Board, staff, and specific committees within PERSI. It clarifies the relationship between Idaho Tort Claims Act and PERSI statutes. It also specifies those covered must be performing their duties within the course and scope of the employment to be eligible for defense and indemnification. Replaced SB 1376. Signed by the Governor on 3/30/06.

## Notes

PERSI Investment Officer [Richelle Sugiyama](#) has been appointed to the Endowment Fund Investment Board, which manages income derived from endowment lands in Idaho. For several months last year, Richelle served as interim director while the State searched for someone to fill the role permanently. PERSI proudly recognizes her many contributions.